

Therefore, Colson '553 does not teach or suggest the striate fabric of claims 45-47 and those claims are patentable over this reference.

Claims 52-57 are directed to a cellular shade structure having tabs made of three layers of material. The Examiner rejected these claims under Section 102 citing U.S. Patent No. 5,339,882 to Judkins. That patent discloses cellular products in which tabs are provided on the front and rear sheets that extend inwardly to provide support for vanes extending between these sheets. Applicants have amended claim 52 to provide that the tabs extend outward from the sheets rather than inward toward the vanes. This feature is not taught or suggested by Judkins '882. At Col. 5, lines 40-48, the reference specifically teaches that the tabs extend inward to receive the slats. The patent further teaches that hinges are provided in the slats adjacent the tab connections. Consequently, the reference teaches away from outwardly extending tabs. Therefore, claim 52 as amended is patentable over this reference. Claims 53 through 57 that depend from claim 52 are also patentable.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that all pending claims are patentable. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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